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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

National Intelligence Officers

SP - 79/81

4 March 1981

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

FROM: National Intelligence Officer for Strategic Programs

SUBJECT: Meeting with Dr. Richard Pipes, NSC Staff on NIE 11-3/8
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1. On 3 March 1981, [redacted] and I met with Dr. Richard Pipes, NSC Staff to discuss NIE 11-3/8 and the type of support available through the NIO. General Schweitzer planned to participate in the meeting which I had requested, but was delayed. [redacted]

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2. I invited Dr. Pipes' comments on both last year's Estimate and on my proposals for this year's NIE. In response to his questions I explained the genesis of the two sets of Key Judgments in NIE 11-3/8-80. I responded to questions about the validity of "net assessments" which are not supported by quantitative analysis such as those on Soviet air defenses and defense against SSBNs. He criticized dismissal of the significance of Soviet civil defense in the 1976 NIE but thought the subject was better treated in the 1980 Estimate.

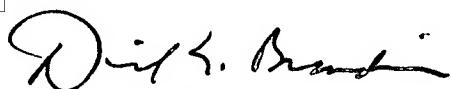
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3. Dr. Pipes' principal proposal for this year's NIE was that it state the purpose of developments in Soviet strategic programs. I explained that the purpose of Soviet strategic programs in the broader context of Soviet overall military doctrine, strategy and foreign policy was beyond the scope of NIE 11-3/8 and was not to be treated in this year's Estimate. I pointed out that Soviet objectives underlying their strategic programs and the purpose of individual weapon systems was covered in the NIE. Dr. Pipes cited as an example of what he meant, Soviet efforts to acquire Indian Ocean bases which he believed were for the purpose of giving the USSR the ability to counter the Trident. Dr. Pipes did not agree with my response that even if the Soviets acquired such bases they probably could not threaten the Trident between now and 1990, barring some technological breakthrough that we can't predict. In his emphasis on the purpose of Soviet programs, I believe Dr. Pipes was seeking to relate strategic developments to his well known, strident assessment of Soviet objectives and policies for achieving them. [redacted]

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4. Dr. Pipes explained his role as advisor to the President on broad issues of Soviet policy. He was not certain where the account for strategic programs would eventually fall in the new NSC structure. I acknowledged that he was one of our most important consumers, and he appreciated my offer to respond to any questions or requests he may have. [redacted]

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David S. Brandwein

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